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Financing of the United Nations Operation in Burundi

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Katja **Pehrman** (Finland)

I. Introduction

1. At its 17th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2005, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixtieth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Operation in Burundi" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 63rd and 66th meetings, on 23 and 30 June 2006. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/60/SR.63 and 66).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Operation in Burundi for the period from 1 July to 31 October 2006 (A/60/731 and Add.1);

(b) Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/60/893).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/60/L.53

4. At its 66th meeting, on 30 June 2006, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Operation in Burundi" (A/C.5/60/L.53), which was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of Argentina.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/60/L.53 without a vote (see para. 6).

* Reissued for technical reasons.

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III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Operation in Burundi

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Operation in Burundi[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolution 1545 (2004) of 21 May 2004, by which the Council authorized, for an initial period of six months as from 1 June 2004, with the intention to renew it for further periods, the deployment of a peacekeeping operation called the United Nations Operation in Burundi, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Operation, the latest of which was resolution 1650 (2005) of 21 December 2005,

Recalling also its resolution 58/312 of 18 June 2004 on the financing of the Operation and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 59/15 B of 22 June 2005,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Operation with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Head of Mission with the task of formulating future budget proposals in full accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 59/296 of 22 June 2005 and 60/266 of 30 June 2006, as well as other relevant resolutions;

2. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Operation in Burundi as at 30 April 2006, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 47.3 million United States dollars, representing some 7 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes with concern that only thirty-nine Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Operation in full;

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[1] A/60/731 and Add.1.

[2] A/60/893.

4. *Expresses concern* at the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

5. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

6. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

7. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

8. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Operation;

9. *Welcomes* the use of the Entebbe installation to enhance the efficiency and responsiveness of its logistical support operations for peacekeeping missions in the region;

10. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the relevant provisions of its resolutions 59/296 and 60/266;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Operation is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

13. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Operation against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Operation;

Budget estimates for the period from 1 July to 31 October 2006

14. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the Operation for the period from 1 July to 31 October 2006 for the maintenance of the Operation in a total amount not exceeding 78,959,200 dollars;

Financing of the commitment authority

15. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 40 million dollars at a monthly rate of 10 million dollars, in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 58/256 of 23 December 2003 and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2006, as set out in its resolution 58/1 B of 23 December 2003, subject to a decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Operation;

16. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 15 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 2,092,500 dollars, representing the estimated staff assessment income approved for the Operation for the period from 1 July to 31 October 2006;

Estimates for the support account for peacekeeping operations and the United Nations Logistics Base for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007

17. *Decides further* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Operation in Burundi the amount of 3,426,800 dollars for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007, comprising 2,830,400 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and 596,400 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base;

Financing of the appropriation

18. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 3,426,800 dollars, in accordance with the levels updated in its resolution 58/256 and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2006, as set out in its resolution 58/1 B, and for 2007;[3]

19. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 18 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 363,400 dollars, comprising the prorated share of 318,300 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the support account and the prorated share of 45,100 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the United Nations Logistics Base;

20. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

21. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Operation, bearing in mind paragraphs 5 and 6 of Security Council resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August 2003;

22. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Operation in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Operation in Burundi".

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[3] To be adopted by the General Assembly.